

First UK record of *Adelognathus stelfoxi* Fitton, Gauld & Shaw (Hym.: Ichneumonidae)

The Sorby Natural History Society has a number of moth-trapping evenings each year, organised by Frank Botterill and arranged so that a fairly even coverage of the Society's area is achieved. On 1 July 2000, the session was organised jointly with the staff of Ulley Country Park (VC 63) and formed one of the Park's educational events, open to the public. Three traps were operated and a good range of moths was recorded and demonstrated. I concentrated on the non-lepidopterous element and collected a variety of insects from all three sheets. Among them were the huge caddisfly *Phryganea grandis* and the huge biting midge *Sphaeromyias fasciatus* (both new to the Rotherham list at the time, though I have subsequently recognised examples of both in collections made during the 1980s), as well as a female *Adelognathus stelfoxi*, which was newly described by Fitton, Gauld and Shaw in their key to the females of the British species (Fitton et al, 1982. The taxonomy and biology of the British Adelognathinae (Hymenoptera: Ichneumonidae). *J. Nat. Hist.* 16: 275-283.). All previous examples of this ichneumon were collected in the Republic of Ireland by A. W. Stelfox, so this is the first record from the United Kingdom. I am grateful to Dr Mike Fitton for providing access to the Natural History Museum's collections so that I could compare the Ulley specimen with the example in his care.— BILL ELY, Rotherham Biological Records Centre, Norfolk House, Walker Place, Rotherham S65 1AS. E-mail: bill.ely@rotherham.gov.uk

A March Humming-bird Hawk-moth *Macroglossum stellatarum* (L.) (Lep.: Sphingidae) in north-east Essex

On 14 March 2001, which was a mild and sunny day, my wife Linda and I were surprised to see a Humming-bird Hawk-moth hovering in front of a clump of wallflower blooms in a side street at Manningtree, north-east Essex. After a minute or so it darted off to investigate other possible nectar sources, including *Aubretia* and *Primula*, in a garden border.

This is certainly my earliest record for this immigrant species in Essex and since there were also sightings in south-west England from January to early March it gives rise to speculation that there may have been some overwintering adults in the southern half of Britain.

Brian Goodey, the Essex Moth Recorder, informs me that he has only two other March records for this moth species in the Essex Database: 14 March 1991 at Chadwell St Mary (C. D. Wells) and 9 March 1995 at Colchester (J. Heath).— JOE FIRMIN, 55 Chapel Road, West Bergholt, Colchester, Essex CO6 3HZ.